

First Lutheran / Abundant New Life

3601 Dakota Ave

South Sioux City, NE 68776

www.flcssc.org

www.anlssc.org

www.facebook.com/firstlutheranssc

www.twitter.com/@FirstSsc

402/494-5461

First Lutheran

Abundant

February 2021

New Life



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Mission Statement: Christ has called us to: Invite, Connect, Disciple and Go.

Sign up for electronic giving at:

<http://giving.flcssc.org>

Download the EasyTithe app from the app stores.

Text give at:

402-557-0882



Sign up for Text Notifications

from First Lutheran / Abundant New Life

Text flcssc to 797979 or use

<http://text.flcssc.org>



“Go... and tell the people the whole Message of this new life.”

Acts 5:20 TCV

The deadline for the March Newsletter is February 18

Worship at First Lutheran

February 7

Part 1 of 3 Generosity Series

February 14

Part 2 of 3 Generosity Series

February 21

Part 3 of 3 Generosity Series



February 29

To Be Determined

Church Office 402/494-5461

Douglas Dill, Pastor 402/235-6969
pastordoug@flcsc.org

Billy Denker, Spirit Connection Dir. 402/404-4212
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Ruthie Ailts, Custodian 402/494-6456

Church Council (* Executive Council)

*Deb Kenny, President 712/490-2097
dkenny@flcsc.org

*Jarrod Knudsen, Vice President 712/898-1170
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*Mike Hunter, Treasurer 712/490-2998
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Branden Lieber (blieber@flcsc.org) 712/212-6932

Church Coordinators For:

Altar Care: Billy Denker 402/404-4212

Lectors:

Ushers:

Women of the ELCA Chair:

Bonnie Prosser 402/494-3384

Quick Reminders

Council

Council Meets the 3rd Sunday of the month, following worship.

Confirmation

Confirmation meets the 4th Sunday of the month, following worship.

Disciple Service

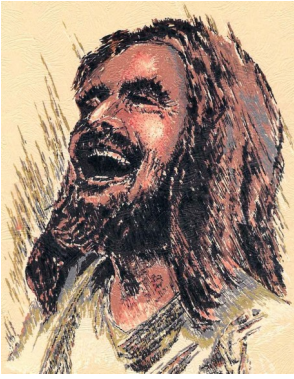
Signup to assist at the welcome center and during worship at: <https://signup.flcsc.org>

Online Worship

If you are watching online, please consider sharing the worship service with others, so they too can hear the Word of God.

Office Secretary

We will be looking to hire a non member for the secretary position. More info to follow on Facebook and our website. A maximum of 20 hrs. per week.



Generosity Sermon Series Pastor Doug

Starting the first week of February, we will start a sermon series about Generosity. We will see what the Bible says about God's generosity and what the Bible says about how Jesus' disciples can choose to respond generously to the love God in Jesus Christ.

I hope you may have seen this before, but if you have not, it is okay, now you can see this with fresh eyes. "Being a disciple of Christ, a follower of Jesus, is a free-willed loving and gracious response to a loving and gracious God!"

Week one will cover being Generous with Your Time.

Week two will cover being Generous with Your Talents. Those of you have taken the Spiritual Gifts class, will see how this applies to you today. If you have not taken the class, contact me about getting into one. I would love to lead this again.

Week three will cover being Generous with Your Resources.

Each week there will be handouts so you can follow along. These handouts will also be sent in a link to the worship info email that gets sent weekly on the Saturday before worship.

If you are not receiving these emails, now would be a great time to get connected. Head to the website: <https://www.flcssc.org> and click on the Stay Updated menu item. From there you can sign up for email, texts and get a link to download our app.

I am looking forward to seeing you at worship and participating in the sermon series. If you

are not able to join in person, download your paperwork each week and participate online.

Sermon series are targeted to help people grow in their discipleship. Like trying to grow muscle, if we do not exercise being disciples, we only get flabby.

This cannot be said enough, so I will repeat it again.

"Being a disciple of Christ, a follower of Jesus, is a free-willed loving and gracious response to a loving and gracious God!"

Blessing, in this Abundant Life through Jesus Christ.

Pastor Doug

Church Council Minutes

Church Council minutes are available upon request. Contact the office at 494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Financial Reports

Financial Reports are available upon request. Contact the office at 402/494-5461 or office@flcssc.org.

Donate on Facebook

Did you know that you can now donate directly to the ministries of First Lutheran through the donate button found on many posts on our Facebook page ([fb.com/firstlutheranssc](https://www.facebook.com/firstlutheranssc))? Please consider supporting FLC ministries. Ministry keeps going on. Won't you be part of responding to the ministry Jesus has for us?

Indoor Worship

We are worshiping inside again and continue to worship online. We do ask that if you are inside worshiping, please keep physical distance and stay in family pods. Although Nebraska is open at 100% for locations of our size, we still need to take precautions.

We offer worship on Vimeo, four Facebook sites, Twitter, Twitch, two YouTube sites, and Picarto TV. Soon we will be on LinkedIn. We offer replay of worship and sermons on Roku and Fire TV.

Also, remember to have your bread, wine/grape juice ready for communion. Communion will be taken in the pews and online.

Mission Asset Mapping

Pastor Doug is hosting on February 14th, following worship, a lunch and opportunity to participate in learning about the assets we have available to us to live out our mission and vision.

Assets are more than just tangible items. Yes, there are some tangible, such as the building and mission funds. The talents of people and our location can be assets as well.

Come on February 14th to dream, hear God's Word and learn how we can do mission together.

Oh, don't forget, there will be a Subway lunch provided!

Food Pantry update

Our Food Pantry offers you an opportunity to volunteer as we serve the hunger needs of Siouxland families. [Every Wednesday your help is needed.](#)

Please sign up for a 2-hour shift (or more!). The morning shift is 9-11am. The afternoon/evening hours are 1-3, 3-5 and 5-7. At times we can be quiet ... but there is always something to do to at First Lutheran Church or bring a book to read. Every week is a variety of busy hours.

Signing up is easy ... <https://signup.flcssc.org> or contact Bev Rautenberg-Panko, Food Pantry Coordinator, pantry@flcssc.org

Video Improvements

Our online worship has brought to light our need to improve the in person worship experience. You may have noticed how well the worship slides look online. If you recall worshipping inside, which we realize has been some time ago for

some, but the slide upon the screen are difficult to see.

In 2021 we expect to be open to worship in the building. We are also expecting through prayer, that we will welcome many guests, just as our mission statement says. In doing so we need to replace the 15 year old projection system, which is costly to maintain. If you would prayerfully consider giving towards the worship mission, you can designate on your checks to Sanctuary Video or you if you would prefer to give electronically, designate the gift under Sanctuary Video under Worship and Music.



Ash Wednesday & Lent

In light of the pandemic and that there have been many that have not been able to participate in Ash Wednesday due to allergic reactions to the ashes, it will look different this year.

Ash Wednesday is February 17th. We will have an evening only service at 6 p.m. All Lent services will be based off Prayers around the cross and held at 6 p.m. We will not have the cross setup for Ash Wednesday but each Wednesday of Lent after that, it will be.

If we are not using ashes, then what for Ash Wednesday? Pastor Doug ordered many wrist bands to be given out. They say: Remember, from dust you came and dust you shall return. You can and are encourage to wear this all through Lent.

There will also be an Ashes to Go in the morning, from 6-9 a.m.

Hopes to Habits

As part of our changes that have been recommended by Effective Church Group, we will have a Bible Study, that will help bring some positive changes to the congregation.

From Hope to Habits is a 6-week group study that provides participants the opportunity to explore a variety of spiritual practices that allow Christians to turn their hope for something different into habits that make a difference.

There will be a cost to the materials, to cover binding and printing. If you cannot afford the cost, which is still to be determined, please contact pastor Doug. He has resources to help cover your cost.

Sponsor a Song

Would you like to sponsor a song for worship? There are many songs that we will use over and over. Normally songs are rented as part of our package we have with MultiTracks.com. However, if we use it often, it would be better to purchase it. The cost to do so is \$30 per song. If you would like to sponsor a song, please indicate this on your check or use online giving to give towards Sponsor a Song found under Worship and Music.

Stimulus Checks

Looks like there may be another round of stimulus checks from our Federal Government. We ask you to once again, prayerfully consider a response to Jesus by supporting ministry here as a disciple. Please respond by at least tithing your check(s) to First Lutheran / Abundant New Life, so everyone may continue to experience abundant new life in our missions.

We realize that that some people have had a financial burden during this pandemic, and you greatly need the money to take care of yourself and your family. If that is you, keep it all to care for your direct family.

At the same time, we realize also that for some, the stimulus check, along with a decrease in spending during this pandemic, has been a financial windfall for you. Please consider giving more than the tithe. The missions of First Lutheran / Abundant New Life, and the people of God that we reach in mission, will benefit.

Thank you in advance, Your Congregational Council.

When Christians Act Like Christians: God's Call to Christlike Civility

As we have seen before and after the election, there is a lack of civility among the people in our nation. What is worse, it is the same among those that say they are Christians. Discipleship calls for love and in love we will be civil. We do not have to agree, but we are called to love and be civil.

This will be an upcoming Bible Study, at First Lutheran / Abundant New Life. Be part of this study. We will do this both online and in person.

Get your copy of the book at Amazon. Before you click the link, make sure you sign up for Amazon Smile. Choose First Lutheran for the smiles benefit. This will ensure that First Lutheran / Abundant New Life will benefit financially from your purchases at Amazon, at no cost to you.

Get your paperback book here: <http://amzn.to/3oulap7> For financial assistance, please speak to Pastor Doug.

AmazonSmile

Do you shop at Amazon? Did you know that First Lutheran will receive a .5% donation from your purchase if you shop through smile.amazon.com/ch/47-6000954/? \$145.47 has been raised from 16 donors since we joined the program. Help increase the number of donors and the money raised for mission.

Giving to First Lutheran

Now that we are open, there will be more expenses to keep up mission. We will worship together in person and online.

Of course, ministry and mission, whether within or beyond the walls of a church building, require income – our gifts, tithes, and offerings. It probably comes as no surprise, though, that our offering receipts have decreased when we had to pause worshipping in our Church building. Many of us have been trained from childhood to bring our coins, cash, or checks to worship with us so we can place them in the offering plate as it's passed; and no offering time means no opportunity to give. But, we think we've found a way to make it easier for you.

Currently, we have five ways you can give, or catch-up on your giving:

1. **TEXT:** Text the word "GIVE" to 402-557-0882, then follow the instructions texted back to you.
2. **APP:** (did you know we have an app!?) <https://app.flcssc.org/>
3. **CHECK** Sent to the office at 3601 Dakota Ave, South Sioux City NE 68776
4. **AUTOMATIC PAYMENT** can be arranged through your bank, or in our e-Giving at <https://give.flcssc.org>
5. **AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL** can also be arranged through your bank, or with e-giving
6. **FACEBOOK** Many of the posts on our Facebook have an option to give.

Don't forget: if you have trouble remembering your offering, both our text and app have a "recurring" option that will send your offering to FLC every week or month (you choose), regardless of whether or not you're in the building! And you can always arrange for Automatic Payment or Withdrawal through your bank!

We can't begin to say enough THANK YOU for your faithfulness and continued generosity.

Confirmation Information

Confirmation has resumed inside. We will continue to meet on the fourth Sunday of each month, following worship.



All confirmands and mentors are expected to meet each month. We will utilize room 106 A/B for the meetings.

I am looking forward to see each of you again in confirmation. Confirmands and mentors, please reach out to each other and come to worship.

Don't forget about your volunteer hours, attending a council meeting, a wedding and a funeral.

Did You Know This About The Congregation?

Did you know that First Lutheran has a foundation?

What's a Foundation? A foundation is a separate corporation within First Lutheran Church that invests gifts, donations, and bequests for the future of First Lutheran missions. These investments are meant to provide income for needs of the congregation not covered in the Annual Mission Support Plan. The Foundation is led by four members of the congregation elected by the Congregation Council, who make the investment and disbursement decisions.

In 2020, at the direction of the Congregation Council, the by-laws were updated. Here is a

summary of the changes:

- Membership on the Board of Trustees has been reduced to 4 people from 5.
- The term of service for a Trustee will be 2 years instead of 5. The number of terms that may be served is two consecutive terms.
- Investments are to be made in the ELCA Mission Investment fund or The Thrivent Investment Funds.
- Updating language to match today's us age.

The current Board of Directors is as follows:

President: Lee Novak
Vice-President: Rick Heurtz
Secretary: Gary Panko
Treasurer: Sue Hunter

In following the new by-laws, the following actions were taken:

Withdrew the current investments of \$12,548.96 and deposited the proceeds into the checking account, bringing the total in checking to \$13,996.63.

Disbursed \$12,736 to the Congregation to cover expenses for our Mission Healing Program. Disbursed \$30 for a lock box, bringing the year-end total to \$110,736.63.

Beginning in January, 2021, \$4000 will be withdrawn from checking each month and invested equally in 2 Thrivent Funds.

Journey Groups

Another initiative that the council has taken on, is to bring Journey Groups to the congregation. Effective Church Group has begun the training process with council members.

As council members get trained, expect to be contacted to join a group. Kris Dill is also being trained.

Drawing on the strength of two or three to be stronger, more courageous, and bolder in our daily prayers.

A JOURNEY GROUP is made up of two or three people, all of the same gender, who meet once a week for spiritual growth and development through Bible reading and accountability.

Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1.9



Download your copy of the Journey Group document from our website, under documents.

<https://www.flcssc.org/wordpress/documents/>

Josiah Mullins

He is coming back to First Lutheran!!!!

When: Sunday February 28th @ 3:30 p.m.







Where: First Lutheran / Abundant New Life

Josiah will once again bring his talented voice for everyone to hear. There will be a free will offering to support his singing.

Here is a video from last year: <https://vimeo.com/445729813>

Check out his website at: <http://mullinsmusicministry.bandzoogle.com>

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>31</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.</p> <p>8:00 AM Spirit Connection practice 9:30 AM Spirit Connection Worship Service Inside and online</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Food Pantry</p>	<p>4</p> <p>2:00 PM Food Bank distribution 6:30 PM Fellowship Team Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:30 PM DC Amateur Radio Club Radio Testing</p>
<p>7</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.</p> <p>8:00 AM Spirit Connection practice 9:30 AM Spirit Connection Worship Service Inside and online</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:15 AM Circle II</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Food Pantry 5:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 PM Lydia Group</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 AM Saturday Quilting Group</p>
<p>14</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.</p> <p>8:00 AM Spirit Connection practice 9:30 AM Spirit Connection Worship Service Inside and online</p>	<p>15</p> <p>2:00 PM Circle I 6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Food Pantry</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Newsletter Deadline 2:00 PM Food Bank distribution 7:00 PM DC Amateur Radio Club</p>	<p>19</p>	 <p>PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY</p>
<p>21</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.</p> <p>8:00 AM Spirit Connection practice 9:30 AM Spirit Connection Worship Service Inside and online 11:30 AM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:30 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM Women of the ELCA Executive Committee Meeting</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Food Pantry</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>  <p style="font-size: small;">This is the day that the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad in it.</p> <p>8:00 AM Spirit Connection practice 9:30 AM Spirit Connection Worship Service Inside and online 11:00 AM Confirmation Class</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:30 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 AM Food Pantry 1:00 PM Food Pantry</p>	<p>4</p> <p>2:00 PM Food Bank distribution 6:30 PM Fellowship Team Meeting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:30 PM DC Amateur Radio Club Radio Testing</p>